

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (Original): A method of manufacturing a plant finished product, comprising the step of processing a plant or a processed material thereof with high-temperature and high-pressure liquid, gas, or fluid under conditions where an oxygen concentration is 0 to 1 $\mu\text{g/mL}$.

Claim 2 (Original): The method of manufacturing a plant finished product according to claim 1, wherein the plant or the processed material thereof is processed for 1 to 3,600 seconds with liquid, gas, or fluid having a temperature of 140 to 500°C and a pressure of 0.1 to 100 MPa, under conditions where an oxygen concentration is 0 to 1 $\mu\text{g/mL}$.

Claim 3 (Original): The method of manufacturing a plant finished product according to claim 1, wherein the plant or the processed material thereof is processed for 10 to 1,200 seconds with liquid, gas, or fluid having a temperature of 160 to 250°C and a pressure of 0.5 to 4.5 MPa, under conditions where an oxygen concentration is 0 to 1 $\mu\text{g/mL}$.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The method of manufacturing a plant finished product according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein the liquid, gas, or fluid is derived from deaerated liquid.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The method of manufacturing a plant finished product according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, wherein gas having an oxygen concentration of 0 to 1 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ is used to purge a processing container before processing.

Claim 6 (Original): The method of manufacturing a plant finished product according to claim 5, wherein the gas having an oxygen concentration of 0 to 1 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ is an inert gas, carbon dioxide, or deoxidized gas.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The method of manufacturing a plant finished product according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, wherein the plant or the processed material thereof is a plant containing lignin or a processed material thereof.

Claim 8 (Original): The method of manufacturing a plant finished product according to claim 7, wherein the lignin-containing plant or the processed material thereof is at least one selected from grains, trees, teas, processed materials thereof, and a by-product of mashing.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A plant finished product manufactured by the method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, which contains 0.15 mg/100g or more of vanillin.

Claim 10 (Original): The plant finished product according to claim 9, which is derived from grains, trees, teas, or processed materials thereof.

Claim 11 (Original): The plant finished product according to claim 10, which is derived from malt or malt husk.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): Food or drink manufactured using the plant finished product according to ~~any one of claims 9 to 11~~ claim 9 as a raw material.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The food or drink according to claim 12, which is a drink selected from liquors and soft drinks, or foods selected from confectionery and rice foods.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): Food or drink manufactured using the plant finished product according to ~~any one of claims 9 to 11~~ claim 10 as a raw material.

Claim 15 (Original): The food or drink according to claim 14, which is liquor.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The food or drink according to claim 12, wherein the plant finished product according to ~~any one of claims 9 to 11~~ is used as

a raw material in an amount of more than 0 % but 100 % or less of all the raw materials used other than water.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): The food or drink according to claim 16, wherein the usage ratio of the plant finished product ~~according to any one of claims 9 to 11~~ to all the raw materials used other than water is 0.1 to 50 % by weight relative to all the raw materials used other than water.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): The food or drink according to claim 16, wherein the usage ratio of the plant finished product ~~according to any one of claims 9 to 11~~ is 0.5 to 30 % by weight relative to all the raw materials used other than water.

Claim 19 (Currently amended): The food or drink according to ~~any one of claims 12 to 18~~ claim 12, which contains vanillin 0.005 µg/mL or more of vanillin.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): Beer manufactured using the plant finished product according to ~~any one of claims 9 to 11~~ claim 9 as at least one of raw materials material.

Claim 21 (Original): A method of manufacturing a composition containing vanillin, comprising the step of processing a plant containing lignin or a processed material thereof with high-temperature and high-pressure liquid, gas, or fluid to increase the amount of vanillin contained therein.

Claim 22 (Original): The method of manufacturing a composition containing vanillin according to claim 21, wherein the temperature of the liquid, gas, or fluid is 140°C to 500°C and the pressure of the liquid, gas, or fluid is 0.1 to 100 MPa.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): The method of manufacturing a composition containing vanillin according to claim 21 ~~or 22~~, wherein the high-temperature and high-pressure processing is carried out for 1 to 3,600 seconds.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): The method of manufacturing a composition containing vanillin according to ~~any one of claims 21 to 23~~ claim 21, wherein the composition containing vanillin is a raw material of food and drink.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): The method of manufacturing a composition containing vanillin according to ~~any one of claims 21 to 24~~ claim 21, wherein the composition containing vanillin is a raw material of liquors or tea drinks.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): The method of manufacturing a composition containing vanillin according to ~~any one of claims 21 to 25~~ claim 21, wherein the plant containing lignin or the processed material thereof is derived from grain.

Claim 27 (Original): The method of manufacturing a composition containing vanillin according to claim 26, wherein the grain is malt.

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): The method of manufacturing a composition containing vanillin according to ~~any one of claims 21 to 27~~ claim 21, wherein the vanillin content of the composition containing vanillin is three times or more compared to that of the plant containing lignin or the processed material thereof before high-temperature and high-pressure processing.

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): The method of manufacturing a composition containing vanillin according to ~~any one of claims 21 to 28~~ claim 21, comprising a step of exposing a product obtained through high-temperature and high-pressure processing to a low pressure from a high pressure to transpire moisture and puff out the product.

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): The method of manufacturing a composition containing vanillin according to ~~any one of claims 21 to 29~~ claim 21, wherein an extruder is used.

Claim 31 (Currently Amended): The method of manufacturing a composition containing vanillin according to claim 29 ~~or 30~~, wherein the composition containing vanillin is puffed out into a stick-like shape, a cylindrical column shape, a polygonal prism shape, a spherical shape, or a polyhedron shape.

Claim 32 (Currently Amended): The method of manufacturing a composition containing vanillin according to ~~any one of claims 21 to 31~~ claim 21, wherein the plant, the processed material thereof, or the raw material containing the plant and/or

the processed material thereof is processed under conditions where an oxygen concentration is 0 to 1 $\mu\text{g/mL}$.

Claim 33 (Currently Amended): A composition containing vanillin, which is manufactured by the method according to ~~any one of claims 21 to 32~~ claim 21.

Claim 34 (Currently Amended): A composition containing malt, which is manufactured by the method according to ~~any one of claims 21 to 32~~ claim 21.

Claim 35 (Currently Amended): Food or drink, which is manufactured using, as a raw material, the composition containing vanillin manufactured by the method according to ~~any one of claims 21 to 32~~ claim 21.

Claim 36 (Original): The food or drink according to claim 35, which is any one of beer, happoushu, whiskey, shochu (Japanese white liquor), and fruit wine.

Claim 37 (Original): The food or drink according to claim 35, which contains 0.005 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ or more of vanillin.

Claim 38 (Original): The food or drink according to claim 37, which is any one of beer, happoushu, whiskey, shochu (Japanese white liquor), and fruit wine.